

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 870

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Dr. Donald L. Hopper on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding school administrators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding individual is Dr. Donald L. Hopper, who will soon begin a much-deserved retirement from the Hardeman County School System, for which he has admirably served as Director of Schools since July 14, 2005; and

WHEREAS, a native of Tiptersville, Mississippi, this assiduous scholar earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Union University and his Master of Social Science degree and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, prior to his illustrious tenure as the Director of Schools, Dr. Hopper served the Hardeman County School System with distinction for twenty years as a principal, vice-principal, and classroom teacher; and

WHEREAS, he also rendered sterling service as the Headmaster at Marshall Academy in Holly Springs, Mississippi, and at Old Hickory Academy in Jackson; as the Executive Director of Three Rivers Educational Cooperative in New Albany, Mississippi; as the Assistant Principal and Principal at Middleton High School; and as the Program Specialist with Hardeman County Schools; and

WHEREAS, deeply committed to professional development, Dr. Hopper has served on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools evaluation team, conducted countless in-service and staff development seminars, and participated in numerous workshops on a wide variety of instructional topics; and

WHEREAS, a highly influential figure in his field, Dr. Hopper is the Chairman of the Tennessee State Textbook Commission and valued member of the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development's Board of Governance, the Tennessee Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Tennessee Association of Administrators of Special Education, the Tennessee Association of Supervisors of Attendance, and the Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, believing deeply in his mission of educating, empowering, and encouraging all students to achieve their maximum potential, Dr. Donald Hopper has guided the Hardeman County School System with tremendous acumen and alacrity and leaves the school system in excellent shape for the future; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. Donald Hopper has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his students, parents, teachers, and school board alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Donald L. Hopper our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, applaud his dedication to the students of Tennessee, and wish him much happiness and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.